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23-2023
For Immediate Release
April 18, 2023

NYC DOC OFFICER CHARGED IN GROPING OF FELLOW OFFICER WHILE BOTH WERE ON DUTY IN RIKERS ISLAND

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark and New York City Department of Investigation Commissioner Jocelyn E. Strauber today announced that a New York City Department of Correction Officer has been charged with Forcible Touching, third-degree Sexual Abuse and Harassment of a Correction Officer at a Rikers Island facility.

District Attorney Clark said, “We will hold accountable anyone who commits a crime in the jails, and workplace sexual abuse will not be tolerated. The victimized officer was performing her job and was allegedly abused by a colleague, someone she should be able to trust in a place where Correction staff are victims of violence by inmates.”

Commissioner Strauber said, “No person – and no City employee -- should be subject to sexual abuse and harassment in the workplace. The defendant’s alleged conduct toward a fellow officer is not only a violation of Department of Correction policies and his duty as a City Correction Officer, it is a crime. I thank the Department of Correction for referring the complaint and the Bronx District Attorney Darcel Clark for prosecuting this important case, which makes clear that the charged conduct is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.”

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Carlos Ozorio, 38, an 11-year veteran of the DOC, was arrested and arraigned today on a Misdemeanor complaint charging Forcible Touching, third-degree Sexual Abuse and second-degree harassment before Bronx Criminal Court Judge Matthew Grieco. He is due back in court on June 7, 2023.

According to the investigation by the Department of Investigation and the Bronx District Attorney’s Public Integrity Bureau, at approximately 9:30 a.m. on December 5, 2020, inside of a Rikers Island Headquarters trailer facility, the defendant came up behind the victim, and grabbed her breast and vagina while kissing her neck. After the victim pushed herself away from the defendant, he slapped her buttocks.



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The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Teri Chung of the Public Integrity Bureau, under the supervision of Sarah Clements, Supervisor of the Public Integrity Bureau, Allison Riesel, Deputy Chief of the Public Integrity Bureau, and Omer Wiczyn, Chief of the Public Integrity Bureau, and under the overall supervision of Denise Kodjo, Deputy Chief of the Investigations Division, and Wanda Perez-Maldonado, Chief of the Investigations Division.

For DOI, the investigation was conducted by the Office of the Inspector General for DOC, specifically Captain Lawrence Bond, under the supervision of Deputy Inspector General Marissa Carro, Senior Inspector General Whitney Ferguson, Deputy Commissioner/Chief of Investigations Dominick Zarrella and First Deputy Commissioner Daniel G. Cort.

A complaint is an accusatory instrument and not proof of a defendant's guilt.